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## Thailand

### Grain and Feed

### Weekly Rice Price Update

**2004**

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**Report Highlights:**

Export prices continued to increase, in response to the stronger Thai Baht and tightening supplies.

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Includes PSD Changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Bangkok [TH1]  
[TH]

**Indicative Price (Week Ending Jan 12):**

Thailand: Export (FOB) Prices for various grades of rice (USD/M.T.)									
	Exporter Observations							Period Avg.	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	530	510	555	555	540	510	530	533	504
WR 100 B	220	220	225	225	220	219	220	221	210
PB 5%	204	207	215	212	206	210	210	209	200
WR 5%	214	215	216	219	214	210	215	215	203
WR 10%	209	211	211	215	209	206	210	210	200
WR 15%	201	207	206	209	201	202	205	204	196
WR 25%	196	202	203	203	196	191	200	199	190
WR 35%	194	197	200	201	194	186	195	195	187
A 1 SUP	167	174	171	173	167	170	170	170	166
A 1 SPEC	164	172	170	171	164	-	169	168	164
Source: Average actual prices received from exporters									

**Market Tone**

Export prices for all grades of rice continued to increase in response to the stronger Thai Baht and limited supplies. The Thai Baht strengthened to around 38.50 Baht/US dollar, as compared to 39.0 Baht/US\$ in the previous week. The current tight supply, which is partly caused by the government intervention program, also put upward pressure on domestic prices. Also, trade sources reported that new orders are now on track. However, strong competition from Vietnam is anticipated next month (from mid-Feb.) when the supply of new crop comes on to the market.

The following are reported rice exports (as is basis):

WEEK ENDING	QUANTITY	4-WK AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)
NOV 30	143,301	134,241	4,748	5,492
DEC 7	86,287	124,604	4,834	5,543
DEC 14	117,731	123,341	4,952	5,607
DEC 21	102,416	112,434	5,054	5,700
DEC 28	150,601	114,259	5,205	5,789
DEC 31	91,115	-	5,299	5,792
JAN 4	6,950	-	7	10
JAN 11	80,970	-	88	83

*Note on data: Export figures since March 22, 2002, do not include fragrant rice. The authority to report fragrant rice exports was moved from the Thai Board of Trade to the Ministry of Commerce's Office of Commodity Standards, which does not release official fragrant rice export data. FAS/BKK will report only official export numbers from the Board of Trade for non-fragrant and from the Office of Commodity Standards for fragrant rice when available, but the reader should bear in mind the difference between the data.*

According to the Foreign Trade Department, CY 2003 total rice exports increased by 4.6 percent from 7.25 million tons in the previous year to a record high of 7.58 million tons, of which 2.4 million tons were fragrant rice. As for CY 2004 rice exports, the officials target for an all time high of 8.0 million tons.

Unofficial exports (excluding fragrant rice) for Jan. 1 - 11, 2004, totaled 87,920 tons, compared with 83,330 tons during the same period in 2003.

According to the Department of Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during Jan. 1 – 5, 2004 amounted to 29,058 tons, down 7.0 percent from 31,245 tons in 2003.

### Weekly Rice Sales

Private registered rice export sales for the period of Dec. 22-26, and Dec 29-31, 2003, and Jan. 5-9, 2004 are as follows:

Movement (MT)	Dec. 22-26	Dec. 29-31	Jan. 5-9
weekly sales	205,502	82,128	137,819
4 week sum	547,127	521,228	-
4 week mov avg.	136,782	130,307	-
Total weekly sales	5,552,959	5,635,087	-

End of Report.